

**Your district is eligible.**  
*Here's how to get started...*

Each District needs a group of people to fundraise, receive the funds from ISP and make grant decisions - known as the local committee.

For some Districts, this is their Education Foundation, PTO, or a community non-profit like a Lion's Club organization to support this group and act as their fiduciary host.

**Local committees are made up of:**

- At least one District Administrator
- At least 4-5 community members (business owners, school staff, parent volunteers, local civic group members, etc.)

This local committee raises money for the school (through donations, sales, events, alumni letters, etc.)

ISP matches those funds up to \$5,000 every year. The amount is granted to educators, by the local committee for classroom materials, programs, or experiences to fund innovative ideas.

Once the grants have been used, we would like to hear about your experiences! Complete an annual impact report.



ispmn.org

TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT ISP,  
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Collaborate. Innovate. Educate.

FIND OUT MORE

[ispmn.org/for-isp-committees](https://ispmn.org/for-isp-committees)

# What is ISP?

ISP is a nonprofit inspiring innovation in public school classrooms. We do this by providing matching funds for classroom innovation grants through local nonprofits in Region Five.

## Mission

To inspire innovation in education by encouraging community collaboration and creating resources.

## Vision

A growing community of educators who prioritize innovative educational opportunities for all students in Region Five.



# Examples of Innovative Grants

- Robotics
- Technology
- Audio/visual equipment
- Go Pro and broadcasting equipment
- Musical instruments
- Curriculum for team building and mental health programs
- Live animals
- Deep Portage overnight fieldwork
- School recycling and composting program
- Flexible seating
- Electronic indoor garden
- SEL calming room
- Human anatomy models
- Author visits and writing workshops
- Music gardens
- Culinary education equipment
- Hands-on math and science kits
- Mountain bike program
- Light table

# How ISP Supports Educators

## Classroom Grants

Classroom Grants provide opportunities which can spark creativity and inspire innovation in public school classrooms. This funding can empower teachers to bring bold ideas to life by offering \$5,000 matching innovation grants through partnerships with local stakeholders in Region Five.

These grants give educators the flexibility to explore new strategies, programs, and resources that transform learning experiences. As a matching grant, this opportunity fosters sustainable community partnerships, engaging local stakeholders in supporting education and ensuring long-term impact.

## Education Group Support

ISP is able to partner with school districts to foster a culture of innovation and support educators in bringing bold ideas to life. Our team provides guidance in:

- Establishing an ISP Grant Committee to oversee and advance the program’s goals
- Recruiting and engaging committed volunteers who champion innovative teaching
- Creating impact reports and marketing materials to showcase success stories
- Delivering presentations and training on the grant process, helping districts understand how to access funding for classroom innovation

Together, we empower schools to build sustainable systems that elevate teaching and transform learning for all students.



## Innovative Teacher of the Year

This award includes a \$2,500 classroom grant and regional recognition as a classroom innovator. It honors a teacher who demonstrates innovation by introducing new approaches to enhance student learning. Innovation may include implementing new teaching strategies, developing unique programs, fostering collaboration, adapting instruction incrementally, or utilizing creative resources within the school year.

## Innovative Teacher Network

A collaborative series for teachers led by past Innovative Teachers of the Year—educators who have been recognized for their creativity and impact in the classroom. This network brings together passionate, forward-thinking teachers dedicated to transforming student learning. Participants discover innovative practices developed in our region, learn how to adapt these ideas to any grade level or subject, and are able to connect with local educators to exchange strategies, ideas, and inspiration. Session topics include:

- Sharing innovative classroom ideas
- Inquiry-based learning
- Creative problem solving through design thinking
- Experiential learning in the natural world
- Independent research projects
- Leveraging technology to support innovation
- Embracing iteration and growth when trying something new

Together, the network elevates engagement and enriches learning experiences for every student.